

Application No. 10/536,533
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Attorney Docket No. 4544-051675

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-22 (Cancelled)

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): A process for preparing an agglutination reagent for detecting typhoid comprising:

(a) preparing a polyclonal-monospecific antibody specific to a Flagellin gene of *Salmonella typhi*;
(b) preparing a latex particle suspension; and
(c) coating a latex particle with said polyclonal-monospecific antibody specific to *Salmonella typhi*;
wherein said polyclonal-monospecific antibody specific to the Flagellin gene of *Salmonella typhi* is prepared according to a method comprising:

- (i) raising a hyper immune sera against a purified protein encoded by a Flagellin gene specific to *Salmonella typhi*, and
- (ii) separating said polyclonal-monospecific antibody specific to the Flagellin gene of *Salmonella typhi* from said hyper immune sera;

wherein said latex particle suspension is prepared according to a method comprising:

- (i) mixing 1% carboxylated latex particles and a 40 mM 2-N morpholinoethane sulphonate (MES) buffer of pH 5.5 to 6.0 in a ratio of 1:1, washing with a 20 mM MES buffer of pH 5.5 thereby forming a washed latex particle, and
- (ii) adding a 1-ethyl-3 (3-dimethyl-amino propyl) carbodiimide hydrochloride (EDC) in a 20 mM MES buffer of pH 5.5 to said washed latex particle in a ratio of 1:1, washing with a 20 mM MES buffer (pH 5.5); and